



T.J. Gabara 80

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Patent Application

Applicant(s): Thaddeus J. Gabara
Case: 80
Serial No.: 09/870,436
Filing Date: May 30, 2001
Group: 2816
Examiner: Hai L. Nguyen

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited on this date with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Signature: Laura M. Hanlin Date: April 3, 2003

Title: Comparator Circuits Having Non-Complementary Input Structures

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RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

The following remarks are submitted in response to the final Office Action dated January 3, 2003 in the above-identified application.

A Notice of Appeal is submitted concurrently herewith.

REMARKS

The present application was filed on May 30, 2001 with claims 1-41. Applicant filed a Response to Restriction Requirement on March 20, 2002, electing claims 1-7, 36, 37, 40 and 41 for prosecution on the merits. Claims 8-35, 38 and 39 were initially withdrawn from consideration in response to the election, and claims 40 and 41 were subsequently withdrawn from consideration in view of an Amendment filed by Applicant on September 25, 2002. Claims 1-7, 36 and 37 are therefore being examined on the merits in the present application.

In the final Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-7 and 36 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,901,087 (hereinafter "Pascucci"), and rejected claim 37 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Pascucci.